(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Consumer redrcssaJ cases

644. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3S07 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd August, 1993 and state:

(a) the number of cases pending for disposal at the end of the year;

(b) the number of cases filed and disposed of by District Consumer Fora and State Commission in the year 1993;

(c) the number of cases which are pending before each District Consumer Fora and State Commission till date; and

(d) whether Government propose to constitute one more District Consumer Forum to reduce the pendency and also make redressal of consumer grievances more easy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Number of cases pending for disposal in Delhi State

Comission ---------- .... —941
No. of cases pending in District Forum I---------- 4072
No. of cases pending in District Forum II 3093

(b) No. of cases filed in State Commission in 1993 685
No. of cases disposed of in State Commission .... *i*....456
No. of cases filed in District Forum I in 1993.... 3320
No. of cases disposed of in Delhi Forum I.... 199[7]
No. of cases filed in District Forum II in 1993.... - ....-3522
No. of cases disposed of in District Forum II.... 2189

(c) No. of cases pending before State Commission -------- .....—— 929
No. of cases pending before District Forum I ....- .....-4104
No. of cases pending before District Forum II.... — '238

(d) The Consumer Protection Acs. 1986 has been amended to empowei the State Governments/UT Administration to set up more than one District Forums wherever considered necessary. Therefore the decision to set up one more forum rests exclusively with she S-ate Government.

Food-grains take off from PDS

645. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Ministei of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pieased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the take off of foodgrains from the Public Distribution System has fallen substantially;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of fall in the take off of foodgrains from PDS both in the urban and rural areas in the country; and

(c) what are the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY -OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED;: (a) There has been a reduction in the offtake of foodgrains through the Public Distribution System ('PDS; in 1993 as

compared to 1992.

(b) The Off-take of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) has a percentage of allocation in 1992 and 1993 were 85.26% and 67.18% respectively The break-up of allocation and offtake of foodgrains for urban and rural area-is no* maintained by the Centra! Government.

(c) Offtake is generally dependent on factors such as prices and availability of foodgrains in the open market. During 1993, there was adequate availability of foodgrains and open market prices remained easy in most parts of the country.

Separation of Consumer Court from the Civil Courts

646. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stressed the need for making consumer courts distinct from the Civil courts;

(b) whether Government also propose to make more changes in the Consumer Protection Act;

(c) if so, the details of likely changes Government propose to make in the Act; and

(d) to what extent the cases pertaining to consumers' affairs lying in various civil courts are likely to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The three tier quasi judicial agencies envisaged in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 is separate from Civil Courts.

(b) and (c). The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has been amended recently. Presently, there is no proposal to amend it further.

(d) The Ministry does not compile information in respect of cases pertaining to consumer affairs lying in various civil courts.

आवश्यक वस्तुओं की नियमित-आपूर्ति

647. **श्री राम नरेश यादव:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे:

(क) सरकार लोगों की सुविधा के लिए आवश्यक वस्तुओं की नियमित आपूर्ति हेतु कौन-कौन से सुधार करने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि गेहूं और चावल आदि जैसे खाद्यान्न लोगों को समय पर उपलब्ध नहीं कराये जाते हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो वितरण-प्रणाली को सरल बनाने तथा उपभोक्ताओं की आवश्यक वस्तुओं को शीघ्र आपूर्ति के लिए क्या प्रभावी कदम उठाए गए हैं अथवा उठाए जाने की सम्भावना है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद): (क) से (ग). केंद्र सरकार, राज्य सरकारों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासनों को माह-दर-माह आधार पर खाद्यान्नों, लेवी चीनी, सुपीरियर मिट्टी के तेल, सॉफ्ट कोक तथा आयातित खाद्य तेलों का थोक में आवंटनों की सूचना आवंटन से संबंधित मास से दो-तीन सप्ताह पूर्व दे दी जाती है ताकि राज्य सरकारें/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासन, राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र के भीतर विभिन्न जिलों और क्षेत्रों में उप-आवंटन की योजना बना सकें। सामान्यत: राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को खाद्यान्न आवंटन से संबंधित माह के पहले वाले माह की 15वीं तारीख से उपलब्ध करा दिए जाते हैं। उचित दर दुकानों के तंत्र के माध्यम से आगे वितरण करने का कार्य राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के प्रशासनिक अधिकार क्षेत्र में आता है। जब कभी भी सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की वस्तुओं की सुपुर्दगी न किए जाने से संबंधित विशिष्ट शिकायतें प्राप्त होती हैं, केंद्र सरकार उचित उपचारात्मक कार्रवाई करती है।